



MARYLAND Department of Health

Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Dennis Schrader, Secretary

September 12, 2017

The Honorable Larry Hogan
Governor
100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
President of the Senate
H-107 State House
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

The Honorable Michael E. Busch
Speaker of the House of Delegates
H-101 State House
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: Chapters 512 and 513 of the Acts of 2000 (SB 287/HB 300) and Health-General §13-1405(a)(4) - 2017 Report of the State Board of Spinal Cord Injury Research


Dear Governor Hogan, President Miller, and Speaker Busch:

The State Board of Spinal Cord Injury Research (the Board) was established by Chapters 512 and 513 of the Acts of 2000 (SB 287/HB 300) to administer a Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund (the Fund). The Board was charged with awarding research grants aimed at restoring neurological function in individuals with spinal cord injuries. The Maryland Department of Health (the Department) provided administrative support to the Board. Pursuant to this legislation, the Board was required to submit an annual report on its activities in administering the grant program, including the status of the monies in the Fund and the status of the spinal cord research projects funded by grants issued by the Board.

Chapter 667 of the Acts of 2017 (HB 188) – Public Health – Advance Directives – Witness Requirements, Advance Directives Services, and Fund, which passed during the 2017 legislative session, repealed the statutory authority for the Board and the Fund effective July 1, 2017. Therefore, no further funds for any future projects will be awarded. The last time funds were awarded was in FY 2007 for multi-year projects; close-out payments on these awards were made in FY 2010. No grant awards were made from the Fund and no research activities were conducted in FY 2017.

If you wish to discuss this matter, please contact Mr. Webster Ye, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Secretary, at (410) 767-6480 or at webster.ye@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,


Dennis R. Schrader
Secretary

cc: Webster Ye, J.D., Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Secretary
Jinlene Chan, M.D., M.P.H., F.A.A.P., Acting Deputy Secretary, Public Health Services
Donna Gugel, M.H.S., Director, Prevention and Health Promotion Administration
Kristi Pier, M.H.S., M.C.H.E.S., Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Control
Anna McCreery, M.P.H., Director, Cancer and Chronic Disease Bureau
Sarah Albert, MSAR #746